Weekly Compilation of

Presidential Documents

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Editor's Note: The President was at the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, on August 4, the closing date of this issue. Releases and announcements issued by the Office of the Press Secretary but not received in time for inclusion in this issue will be printed next week.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

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Week Ending Friday, August 4, 2006

The President's Radio Address

July 29, 2006

Good morning. This week, the international community continued to build a political and security framework to confront the crisis in the Middle East, a crisis that began with Hizballah's unprovoked terrorist attacks on Israel. Secretary of State Rice traveled to Lebanon, Israel, and Europe, and met with key leaders to discuss a way forward. In Rome, she met with representatives of more than a dozen nations and international organizations. Our Governments agreed to provide relief to the people of Lebanon, using corridors for humanitarian aid that Israel is opening. We pledged to support Lebanon's revival and reconstruction. And we agreed to continue to work for a sustainable cease-fire that will stop the current violence, end the suffering of people in Lebanon and Israel, and move us toward a lasting peace.

Yesterday I met with Prime Minister Tony Blair to discuss our strategy to achieve these shared goals. We agreed that Lebanon's democratic Government must be empowered to exercise full authority over its territory. Militias in Lebanon must be disarmed; the flow of illegal arms must be halted; and the Lebanese security services should deploy throughout the country. We also agreed that a robust multinational force must be dispatched to Lebanon quickly. An effective multinational force will help speed delivery of humanitarian relief, facilitate the return of displaced persons, and support the Lebanese Government as it asserts full sovereignty over its territory and guards its borders. In addition, Iran must end its financial support and supply of weapons to terrorist groups such as Hizballah, and Syria must end its support for terrorism and respect Lebanon's sovereignty.

Secretary Rice will return to the region this weekend, and she will work with the leaders of Israel and Lebanon to seize this opportunity to achieve lasting peace and stability for both countries. Next week, the United Nations Security Council will also meet. We will work with our allies to adopt a resolution that establishes a framework to end the violence quickly and mandates the multinational force. This approach will demonstrate the international community's determination to support the Government of Lebanon and defeat the threat from Hizballah and its foreign sponsors. And this approach will make possible what so many around the world want to see: the end of Hizballah's attacks on Israel; the return of Israeli soldiers taken hostage by terrorists; the suspension of Israel's operations in Lebanon; and the withdrawal of Israeli forces.

As we work to resolve this current crisis, we must recognize that Lebanon is the latest flashpoint in a broader struggle between freedom and terror that is unfolding across the region. For decades, American policy sought to achieve peace in the Middle East by promoting stability in the Middle East, yet these policies gave us neither. The lack of freedom in that region created conditions where anger and resentment grew, radicalism thrived, and terrorists found willing recruits. We saw the consequences on September the 11th, 2001, when terrorists brought death and destruction to our country, killing nearly 3,000 innocent Americans.

The experience of September the 11th made it clear that we could no longer tolerate the status quo in the Middle East. We saw that when an entire region simmers in violence, that violence will eventually reach our shores and spread across the entire world. The only way to secure our Nation is to change the course of the Middle East by fighting the ideology of terror and spreading the hope of freedom.

So we have launched a forward strategy for freedom in the broader Middle East, and that strategy has set in motion a transformation that is changing millions of lives

for the better. From Kabul to Baghdad to Beirut and beyond, we've seen the birth of democratic governments that are striving to serve their people, reject terror, and work for peace. We're also seeing those who oppose democracy fighting its progress with all the destructive power they can muster. We see this in Hizballah's attacks on Israel, in the suicide bombings that kill innocent Iraqis, and in Al Qaida's campaign of terror across the world.

The enemies of freedom have shown their ability to set back our efforts with deadly attacks, but ultimately they will fail. They will fail because courageous leaders in the region have stepped forward to defend freedom and set the Middle East on a better course. And they will fail because millions of people who have suffered decades of oppression and violence will choose to live in peace with their neighbors.

In Iraq, we will help Prime Minister Maliki's unity Government defeat the terrorists, insurgents, and illegal militias and establish a democracy in the heart of the Middle East. In Lebanon, we will stand with the democratic Government in its efforts to rid the country of terrorists and foreign influence and bring about a better life for the Lebanese people. In the Palestinian Territories, we will work with President Abbas to support the forces of moderation and achieve our shared vision of two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security.

This moment of conflict in the Middle East is painful and tragic, yet it is also a moment of opportunity for broader change in the region. Transforming countries that have suffered decades of tyranny and violence is difficult, and it will take time to achieve. But the consequences will be profound—for our country and the world. When the Middle East grows in liberty and democracy, it will also grow in peace, and that will make America and all free nations more secure.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 2 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on July 29. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 28 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. In his address, the President referred to Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom; Prime Minister Ehud Olmert of Israel; Prime Minister Fuad Siniora of Lebanon; Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki of Iraq; and President Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) of the Palestinian Authority. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Remarks on the Situation in the Middle East

July 30, 2006

The current situation in the Middle East is a reminder that all of us must work together to achieve a sustainable peace. America mourns the loss of innocent life. It's a tragic occasion when innocent people are killed. And so our sympathies go out to those who've lost their lives today and lost their lives throughout this crisis.

I've been in touch with Secretary of State Rice twice today. She'll be returning tomorrow, where she'll brief me on her discussions with leaders in the Middle East. I also talked to Tony Blair. The United States is resolved to work with members of the United Nations Security Council to develop a resolution that will enable the region to have a sustainable peace, a peace that lasts, a peace that will enable mothers and fathers to raise their children in a hopeful world.

May God bless those who lost their lives. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:12 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Certifying Exports to the People's Republic of China

July 28, 2006

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

In accordance with the provisions of section 1512 of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (Public Law 105–261), I hereby certify that the export to the People's Republic of

China of the following items is not detrimental to the United States space launch industry, and that the material and equipment, including any indirect technical benefit that could be derived from such exports, will not measurably improve the missile or space launch capabilities of the People's Republic of China.

1. Two million pounds of bulk graphite for use by Smarteem Precision Manufacturing Company, Qingdao Dezong Trading Company, Qingdao Haier Moulds Company, Hi-P Shanghai Precision Mold and Die, Shanghai Sharp Mold and Manufacturing, Shanghai Koito Automotive Lamp Company, Ningbo Yongyao Graphite Product, Heibei Ningjin Matsimiya Semiconductor, Heibei Ningjin Yangguang Electrodes, Jiaxiang Zhengda Xingxin Electrodes, Shanghai Shenhe Thermo-Magnetics and Genic (Shanghai) Company to manufacture electrodes, dies and molds for the production and handling of plastic, rubber, copper, tin, aluminum, and iron components.

2. One 36-inch micronizer to be used by Jiangsu Sopo Chemical of Zhenjiang, China, for processing azodicarbonomide for use in manufacturing plastics.

3. One 42-inch micronizer to be used by Cabot Performance Products Company, LTD. of Tianjin, China, for manufacturing carbon black to be used in rubber and plastics manufacturing.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. The letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 31.

Remarks at a White House Tee-Ball Game

July 30, 2006

Thank you very much. You know, as we listen to our national anthem, it reminds us how blessed we are to live in a land where our boys and girls can grow up in a peaceful world. And on today, our hopes for peace for boys and girls everywhere extends across the world, especially in the Middle East. Today's actions in the Middle East remind us that the United States and friends and allies must work for a sustainable peace, particularly for the sake of children.

And so I want to welcome you here to the White House. What an honor to be with the Commissioner, Willie Mays. See, when I was growing up, I wanted to be the Willie Mays of my generation, but I couldn't hit a curve ball. So instead, I ended up being President.

Laura and I welcome you here, along with the Commissioner. It's a proud day for us to welcome—a little hot for baseball, but I know these teams are up for it. First, I want to welcome the Civitan Club of Frederick Challengers from Thurmont, Maryland. We're glad you all are here. We also want to welcome the Mayor, Mayor Marty Burns of Thurmont. Welcome, Mr. Mayor. Thanks for coming. There he is. Marty used to work at Camp David, by the way.

I also want to welcome the Challenger Braves from Shady Spring, West Virginia.

We welcome both teams, the coaches, the helpers, and the families. We're glad you're here. We're lucky today to have not only one Major Leaguer but three Major Leaguers with us—coaching first base, the lefty, Al Leiter; welcome, Al—at third base, Dan Wilson. Glad you're here, Dan, thanks for coming. Proud you're here.

We welcome Steve Keener, who is the President and CEO of Little League International. We want to thank the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital who carried the colors. I want to thank Nichola Kouzes, who sang the national anthem. Nichola, you did a fabulous job here on the South Lawn. Thank you. She did a good job, didn't she? Not only a good job but a great job.

We're lucky today to have an old hand at calling this game—the former announcer of the Washington Senators, Charlie Brotman. Welcome, Charlie. Glad you're here; thanks for coming. Glad you're here.

And finally, we have a tradition here, and that is we actually don't throw out the first ball; we actually put the first ball on the tee. And joining me today is Kevin Turley. He's a Special Olympics gold medalist. Kevin, thanks for coming. Thank you for being a part of this.

You ready? Everybody ready? And right before we play ball, we'll give the Little League Pledge. Ready for the pledge?

[*At this point, the pledge was recited.*]

Play ball.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:45 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to White House Tee-Ball Commissioner Willie Mays. The transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 31.

Remarks to Reporters in Miami, Florida

July 31, 2006

It's an honor to be here at one of Miami's most famous restaurants. Brother Jeb suggested we come here and have some coffee with some of south Florida's leading entrepreneurs. We've got people who have started their own business, people who are carrying on family traditions—all of whom share with me their optimism but also share with me some of the problems they face.

One of the key problems that many of the businesses face here is labor. The unemployment rate is unbelievably low right now, and therefore, businesses who are planning for the future are wondering whether or not they're going to be able to find people to help their businesses expand. I assured them that the administration is still working toward a comprehensive immigration policy that will be rational, that will be able to, one, enforce rule of law, and on the other hand, be compassionate about how this country treats people.

I assured them as well, that we will continue to work to keep taxes low. It's very interesting, you know; when an entrepreneur gets their business started, they want to keep more of their own money so they can expand. And one way to do that is to make sure that taxes stay low, and that's what we will do.

We talked about health care; we talked about energy; we talked about Cuba. So I want to thank you all very much for being here. Thanks for giving me a chance to come.

And by the way, we also talked about the situation in the Middle East. And I assured the people here that we will work toward a plan in the United Nations Security Council that addresses the root causes of the problem so that whatever comes out of the Security Council will be able to last and that the people in both Lebanon and Israel will be able to grow—be able to remain in peace. That's what we want. We want there to be a long-lasting peace, one that's sustainable. And I'll speak to Condi Rice when she gets back tonight, to talk about what she saw and what she heard in the Middle East. And of course, there will be a way forward in the Security Council later on this week.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:47 a.m. at the Versailles Restaurant and Bakery. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida.

Remarks at the Port of Miami in Miami

July 31, 2006

Thanks for the warm welcome on a warm day. [*Laughter*] I'm proud to be here in this really dynamic city. You know it's an amazing part of our country when you walk off and a Member of the United States Congress says, "*Bienvenido a Miami.*"

This trip is a little different from the last time I spent the night here in Miami. Last night Jeb and I had some crabs with members of the 1972 Miami Dolphins, Dan Marino and his really dynamic wife; TV stars—Andy Garcia, a movie star. We had a fantastic experience. It's a lot better, by the way, than preparing for a presidential debate. [*Laughter*]

I'm glad to be here. I'm glad to be with brother Jeb. We're really proud of him in our family. He's a guy who does what he said he's going to do. He's a good man, *mi hermanito*.

Miami is a strong and vibrant city, and because your economy is strong and vibrant, you've helped this State's economy grow and you've helped the country grow. I want to spend some time talking about the economy and how we can keep our economy strong—no better place to do that than here in the Port of Miami. I'm proud to be with those who work in the port. I'm particularly proud to be with those who wear the uniform of

the United States of America. Thanks for serving.

The Commandant of the United States Coast Guard has joined us today, Admiral Thad Allen. Thanks for coming. Rear Admiral David Kunkel is with us. I appreciate you being here, Admiral. I particularly want to thank all those who are on our ships, work in our ports. And I thank your families. You tell your wife or your husband how much this country appreciates the support of our families for our Coast Guard men and women.

I want to thank Bill Johnson, who is acting seaport director. I'm proud to be here with the Federal Emergency Management Agency head, Dave Paulison—south Floridian by the way. Members of the United States congressional delegation are with us, starting with the Congresswoman from this district, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen. *Los hermanos* Diaz-Balart are with us today, Lincoln *y tambien* Mario. It's good to see you guys. Thanks for coming. Clay Shaw, Congressman Shaw is with us. I'm proud you're here.

The new speaker of the house, Marco Rubio, is with us today. Mr. Speaker, thank you. Mayor Carlos Alvarez is with us, *el alcalde*. Thank you. Mayor Manny Diaz is with us. Thank you, Manny. I want to thank all the local folks for coming, all the people who are concerned about south Florida—the local officials. I'm proud to be here.

Let me start by telling you I'm monitoring the situation in the Middle East very closely. Secretary Rice was in the region over the weekend, and she is working urgently to get a sustainable cease-fire, a cease-fire which will last. We're going to work with our allies to bring before the United Nations Security Council a resolution that will end the violence and lay the groundwork for lasting peace in the Middle East.

As we work with friends and allies, it is important to remember, this crisis began with Hizballah's unprovoked terrorist attacks against Israel. Israel is exercising its right to defend itself. And we mourn the loss of innocent life, both in Lebanon and in Israel. We're determined to deliver relief to those who suffer; we're determined to work to resolve this crisis.

To achieve the peace that we want, we must achieve certain clear objectives: Lebanon's democratic Government must be empowered to exercise sole authority over its territory. A multinational force must be dispatched to Lebanon quickly so we can help speed the delivery of humanitarian aid to the Lebanese people. Iran must end its financial support and supply of weapons to terrorist groups like Hizballah. Syria must end its support for terror and respect the sovereignty of Lebanon.

This approach will make it possible what so many around the world want to see: the end of Hizballah's attacks on Israel; the return of the Israeli soldiers taken hostage by the terrorists; the suspension of Israel's operations in Lebanon; and the eventual withdrawal of Israeli forces.

The current crisis is part of a larger struggle between the forces of freedom and the forces of terror in the Middle East. For decades, the status quo in the Middle East permitted tyranny and terror to thrive. And as we saw on September the 11th, the status quo in the Middle East led to death and destruction in the United States, and it had to change. So America is opposing the forces of terror and promoting the cause of democracy across the broader Middle East.

This task is long; it is difficult work, but it is necessary work. When democracy spreads in the Middle East, the people of that troubled region will have a better future. The terrorists will lose their safe havens and their recruits, and the United States of America will be more secure. The hard work of helping people realize the benefits of liberty is laying the foundation of peace for generations to come.

It's an honor to be here at the largest container port in Florida and one of the most important ports in our Nation. From these docks, ships loaded with cargo deliver products all around the world carrying that label, "Made in the USA." See, the Port of Miami is shipping what the world wants to buy. The Port of Miami is also the largest cruise port in the whole world. All you got to do is drive down the highway and look at the size of those ships. This is known as the "Cruise Capital of the World." And that's important.

It's important for the people who want to find a job here.

See, the Port of Miami not only enables us to ship products all over the world, which encourages job creation—people working here, getting those products moving around the world—but it's also a place where tourists come to travel the world on some great cruise ships, which means that chefs and grocers need to be hired to prepare food for the people on the ships or accountants and travel agents to handle the bookings or hotel workers to house the passengers before the ships depart.

One reason south Florida's economy is doing well is because of the importance of this port. But it's just not the port that is helping the people in south Florida. Do you realize that over the past 3 years, the Miami-Fort Lauderdale metropolitan area has created more than 200,000 new jobs? The unemployment rate in this area is down to 3.2 percent. It's amazing economic vitality in this part of the world, and I congratulate the entrepreneurs.

Today I met with some entrepreneurs. I met a guy named Nelson Gonzalez. Are you here, Nelson? Yes, there he is. And he's got a partner who's not here. But think about this—I want to tell you about Nelson's story. It is an American story. It's a story about two people who had a dream, and 10 years ago they sat in Nelson's garage talking about how to create a business. And they had $10,000 in capital to start their business. And so they decided to build high-performance, custom-designed personal computers. That was their dream. First year, the revenues were $87,000, like they started getting moving. Last year, the revenue was $192 million. They went from 2 people sitting in a garage to employing 750 people.

So here's the spirit behind Nelson's dream. He said, "Losing was not just in our vocabulary. We overcame a lot of things. We really didn't sit on our laurels, and we always look at what we can improve." See, one of the jobs of Government is to put policy in place that encourages the entrepreneurial spirit to flourish. We want more people owning their businesses. We want more dreamers working hard to accomplish their dreams. And when they do, more people find work.

One of the reasons why the national unemployment rate is at 4.6 percent is because the entrepreneurial spirit is strong in America. And we intend to keep it that way. And one of the ways to make sure entrepreneurs like Nelson and others are able to realize dreams is to keep the taxes low.

There's a great temptation in Washington to say, "We can spend your money better than you can," see. But when you start talking about raising taxes, you're talking about taking money away from entrepreneurs and small-business owners. Good policy is policy that says, we want to strengthen the small-business sector in America. We want the entrepreneurial spirit to flourish. And one of the ways to do so is to make the tax cuts we pass a permanent part of the Tax Code.

And here's another way that we can help the entrepreneurial spirit flourish and help make sure south Florida remains a vibrant part of our national economy, and that is to open up markets for trade. I'm worried about protectionist tendencies in the United States, people saying, "Well, we don't want to—really want to compete. Let's just kind of throw up some walls and barriers so people can't sell products into the United States." Such policies will damage the Port of Miami; such policies are short-sighted, as far as I'm concerned.

America is home to 5 percent of the world's population. That means 95 percent of the world's population are potential customers. The port is known as "The Gateway of the Americas" for a reason, because international trade is one of the key reasons why Miami prospers. I don't know if the folks realize that because of trade—in other words, the ability to move products overseas—120,000 jobs here in this part of the world are supported by trade.

I believe trade leads to opportunity; trade leads to jobs; trade means this port will remain vibrant. And so good policy from our Government perspective must be to continue to working up—working to open up markets for U.S. products, and say to people around the world, "You treat us the way we treat you." In other words, trade must be a two-way street. We must work to open up markets but at the same time, we must say to foreign nations, "As we open our markets to

your goods, you open your markets to our goods." The United States can compete with anybody, anywhere so long as the rules are fair.

Congress passed NAFTA, and as a result, Florida's exports to Mexico tripled. Two years ago, we passed a free trade agreement with Chile. Florida exports to that country have jumped by 40 percent. Now when you hear me say, "Florida's exports," that means exports of products made in the United States leaving ports like Miami, which creates jobs. Exports means work. Exports means vitality at our ports.

Last year we passed CAFTA. I want to thank the Members of Congress who supported me on that important agreement. This port handles nearly one-half of all American exports to Central America. And as CAFTA takes hold, we can envision more products passing from the United States to Central America through the Port of Miami.

Now, one of the most promising ways to open up new markets for our workers and businesses is the Doha round of negotiations at the World Trade Organization. See, these talks are important talks. They have a chance to break down trade barriers around the world. They have a chance to expand the flow of commerce, which is what we want. They have a chance to create new jobs and economic growth not only here but elsewhere. And they have a chance to help lift millions of people out of poverty around the world. These are important negotiations taking place. And our Government is strongly committed to a successful outcome of the Doha round.

The problem is, is that some others aren't committed. Recent discussions broke down. In order to make sure that they don't break down permanently, I asked Trade Representative Susan Schwab to continue to work with her counterparts, to continue to discuss ways for the United States to be flexible, particularly on agricultural subsidies, and for our counterparts to be flexible when it comes to achieving fairness when it comes to trade.

We'll do everything we can to get Doha back on track. That's what the people in this port who rely upon the export of goods must understand. We understand how important exportation is to the Port of Miami. We understand how important trade is for the economy of the United States. And so Susan Schwab now has been in Brazil recently, and will continue talking with other trade ministers. Completing the Doha round is going to demand tough choices. We're willing to make those choices, and others nations should as well. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to jump-start global trade and create opportunities around the world.

In order to make sure this country continues to remain strong, we must also ensure that America welcomes new immigrants, people who add to our prosperity. See, we can be a nation of law and a welcoming nation at the same time, and we don't have to choose.

Of all the places in our country, Miami understands the importance of the contribution that the newly arrived can make to a society. Jeb and I just went and had a little coffee at Versailles, which reminded me of the important influence that those who have fled oppression at home can make to our society. It's so hopeful when people who escape repression come to the land of the free and embrace that freedom. We welcome the Cuban influence in the United States of America. We understand that people flee oppression and poverty and seek a better life. We understand the Haitians who have come here to seek freedom. We understand that this is the land of opportunity, and for millions, Miami is the first stop toward realizing their dreams.

To keep the dream alive, we must have comprehensive immigration reform. We must be logical about the approach we take to immigration. Of course, we want to enforce our borders. The Coast Guard works hard to enforce our borders. We got hard-working people on the Mexican border working hard to enforce our borders. And we'll provide more Border Patrol agents. And we'll provide new technologies to help those working hard. But in order to enforce the border, we have got to recognize that people are sneaking in here to work. The best way to enforce the border is to have a rational way for people who are doing jobs Americans aren't doing to come to this country on a temporary basis so they can realize their

dreams. We need a guest-worker program as part of a comprehensive reform.

There's a lot of document forging going on. See, we got people being snuck across in 18-wheelers; we got people walking miles across the desert because of *coyotes* or smugglers. There's also a lot of people who forge documents. It's hard for an employer to know whether someone's here legally or not. That's why we need to have a document that can't be forged and faked. So people say, "I'm here for a temporary basis to work. I'm here legally to do a job Americans aren't doing"—and that way we'll be able to have better worksite enforcement. It's against the law for somebody to hire somebody who is here illegally. In order to make sure that those laws work, we need to have tamper-proof documents in the hands of people applying for work.

Fourthly, it is unrealistic to think that we should give automatic citizenship to people who've been here illegally. That's not going to work. It basically says, fine; then the next wave of people will come to try to become—get automatic citizenship. Amnesty is not the right approach. But neither is trying to remove the 10 or 11 million people who've been here illegally. Deportation is not going to work. What must work is a rational middle ground that says, you can pay a fine; you can learn English; you can prove you've been a lawful citizen; and then you can get in the citizenship line—but at the back of the line, not the front of the line.

And finally, we'll continue to work to help people assimilate into the United States. We want people learning English. We want people learning our history and our traditions. We're going to work hard to make sure we're one Nation under God. Rational immigration policy is possible, and it's important for Members of the United States Congress to work toward a comprehensive immigration plan.

Finally, I want to talk a little bit about what we're doing to secure this country. You got to understand, we're still a nation at war. I fully understand why the American citizens would hope there is no such thing as war. I know that. I know that people don't like to be reminded about the fact that there's still an enemy that lurks and plots and plans. But it's my job, a job that I really understood clearly on September the 11th. My job is to rally the Federal Government and to work with State and local government to protect you. It's the most important job of our Government, is to protect the American people. And so we work hard to—I work hard to remind people that there's still a war going on. But I also assure them that we're doing everything we can to bring the enemy to justice and to secure the homeland at the same time.

And one of the most important parts of securing our country is securing our ports. Port security is one of the top priorities of our Government. Since September the 11th, we've provided $700 million in grants to enhance physical security at our ports, and the Port of Miami received about $25 million of those grants. We understand the important the Coast Guard plays to port security, and so we've increased funding for the Coast Guard by almost $2.9 billion.

We're using technologies to protect this country of ours, such as state-of-the-art x-ray and gamma-ray scanners to screen cargo and containers. We launched what we called the Container Security Initiative, which is to identify and inspect suspicious cargo at foreign ports before they depart for America. In other words, doesn't it makes sense for us to inspect product and cargo overseas, before they're shipped here? That's what we're doing. We've got a smart policy about how to protect our ports. And we'll continue to work with Port Authorities and custom officers and immigration agents and the Coast Guard and Jeb's office and local folks to do our duty, to do the duty the American people expect—which is, to the best of our ability, protect the United States against further attack.

I want you to know that I am optimistic about the future of this country. I'm confident that we're going to win the war on terror, because I understand that our vision of freedom, our belief in liberty, is more powerful than the ideology of hatred that the terrorists espouse.

I believe this economy will remain strong if we leave hands in the—if we leave people's money in their own hands so they can save, invest, and spend. I believe in the entrepreneurial spirit in America. I believe in our

workers. I believe in our small-business owners. I believe that when people can dream and do and accomplish, our society is better off. I'm confident that the values of the United States will remain strong, because I understand the character of Americans by birth and by choice.

And so I understand we face a lot of challenges, but I believe this country can overcome those challenges. And I want to thank you for letting me come to the Port of Miami to discuss some of the challenges we face.

Thanks for your hard work. May God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:17 a.m. at the U.S. Coast Guard Integrated Support Command. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida; former professional football player Daniel C. Marino, Jr., and his wife, Claire; Rear Adm. David W. Kunkel, USCG, district commander, Seventh Coast Guard District; Bill Johnson, acting director, Port of Miami; Marco Rubio, speaker-designate, Florida State House of Representatives; Mayor Carlos Alvarez of Miami-Dade County, FL; Mayor Manuel A. Diaz of Miami, FL; and Nelson Gonzalez and Alex Aguila, founders, Alienware Corp.

Remarks Following a Tour of the Port of Miami in Miami

July 31, 2006

I want to thank Admiral Allen and the members of the Coast Guard for what has been a really interesting tour of the Port of Miami.

A couple of things: One, it's clear that the money we've been spending to help secure our ports is working. In other words, new technologies—there's new ways to investigate cargo that gets here. Obviously, there's more work to be done, but one of the most innovative projects we've done, by the way, is to have a—is to use ports of—the disembarkation to inspect cargo so that the cargo has been inspected before it arrives here.

So I want to thank you all for the tour. I'm real proud of our Coast Guard. The Coast Guard is really, really good. And part of our efforts is to work with the Coast Guard leadership to make sure the Coast Guard is modernized, that they've got the latest choppers, the good boats to be able to do their job.

We talked about a lot of issues besides port security. One of the big issues that people face here is the migration issue, a lot of people trying to sneak into Florida. And the Coast Guard is doing their job to enforce our policy, and I appreciate them for their hard work.

At the United Nations today, the Security Council passed a resolution regarding Iran's attempt to have nuclear weapons. It's a strong resolution. I want to thank our partners. This resolution follows up on North Korea resolution, and it goes to show that when America takes the lead and works with our friends, we're able to accomplish diplomatic objectives.

And now Condi Rice comes back from the Middle East and will be working with our friends and allies on a resolution regarding Lebanon. But the Iranians must hear loud and clear with this resolution: The world is intent upon working together to make sure that they do not end up with a nuclear weapon or the know-how to build a nuclear weapon.

Again, I want to thank our allies on this very important resolution, and remind the American people that we've had a strategy in place to send a common message, a unified message to the Iranian leadership.

I want to thank you all. Appreciate it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:24 a.m. at the U.S. Coast Guard Integrated Support Command.

Remarks to Reporters at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland

August 1, 2006

The President. I'm just amazed at the health care here at Bethesda. The Admiral runs an amazing operation. And it's really important for our citizens to know that if one of our men and women get hurt on the battlefield, they're going to get incredibly good health care.

And, Admiral, I can't thank you and your staff enough for serving the country with great dignity and class.

Rear Adm. Robinson. Thank you very much.

The President. Appreciate being here. God bless. Thank you.

I'm doing fine; my health is fine. I probably ate too many birthday cakes.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:40 p.m. Participating in the visit was Rear Adm. Adam M. Robinson, Jr., USN, commander, National Naval Medical Center, and chief, Navy Medical Corps.

Remarks on the Renovation of the James S. Brady Press Briefing Room and an Exchange With Reporters

August 2, 2006

Press Secretary Tony Snow. All right, well, never mind. See, every once in a while, hideous threats have a clarifying effect. And sometimes they make people make important choices, and apparently the threat of my singing has persuaded the President of the United States to intervene on yet another mission of peace.

Mr. President.

The President. Dee Dee, how're you doing?

Margaret J. "Dee Dee" Myers. Mr. President.

The President. Marlin, you're looking as pretty as ever.

Marlin Fitzwater. Thank you, Mr. President. Really good to see you.

The President. Sarah, good to see you.

Sarah Brady. How are you?

The President. Jim, really good to see you, sir. Thank you.

James S. Brady. Nice seeing you too.

Q. Speech, speech.

Q. Press conference.

Q. Welcome, Mr. President.

Q. We have a few questions, if you don't mind.

Q. Just a couple of questions.

The President. I know you've been complaining about the digs for a while. [*Laughter*] So this is like the end of an old era. And let me just say, we felt your pain. And so we decided, you know, to help you renovate and come up with a new Brady center.

And so I want to thank the former spin meisters for joining me up here. Tell my people how to do it, will you? I mean, it's a—[*laughter*].

But anyway, Laura and I wanted to come by and wish you all the best as you get to move headquarters for a while. I look forward to welcome you back here in, I guess, 6 or 7 months. Is that right?

Q. Nine months. We hope.

Q. We're setting no timetables, Mr. President. [*Laughter*]

The President. That's what you get when you bring your crackpot up from Texas. [*Laughter*]

Q. No comment, sir. [*Laughter*]

The President. So, like, suede chairs? [*Laughter*] Is that what you're looking—kind of velvet armchairs? Armchairs. Everybody wants to be able to lean back.

It looks a little crowded in here. And so you want to double the size?

Q. Yes.

The President. Forget it. [*Laughter*] You get to work like the rest of us. We may have some air conditioning if we decide to. [*Laughter*]

Anyway, good luck in the new building. Looking forward to seeing you over there.

Q. Can we come see you?

The President. I don't know. Does the air conditioner work better there than here? [*Laughter*]

Q. Yes.

The President. The last time I had a press conference in here, it felt like it was outside. As a matter of fact, some of your makeup was running. [*Laughter*]

Q. Mr. President, should Mel Gibson be forgiven? [*Laughter*]

The President. Is that you and Gregory [David Gregory, NBC News] standing back there?

Q. I was there first. [*Laughter*]

The President. You know——

Q. ——complaining that the Jews start all the wars——

The President. Is that Sam Donaldson? [*Laughter*] Forget it. You're a has-been. We don't have to answer has-been's questions.

Q. Oo-o-oh!

Q. Mr. President, do you want to say a little about the White House press corps, please?

The President. Say something about the White House press corps?

Q. Yes, sir.

The President. It's a beautiful bunch of people. [*Laughter*]

Q. How about your best moment in here, sir? Can you remember your——

The President. My best moment in here is when my press conference ended. [*Laughter*]

Q. [*Inaudible*]—about Mel Gibson——

The President. I can't hear you; I'm over 60, just like you. [*Laughter*]

Q. ——Ronald Reagan could get away with that, sir.

The President. He was over 60 as well. At any rate, as you can tell, I'm thrilled to be here. [*Laughter*] But we do wish you all the best. Looking forward to being here when you kick off the new room. You deserve better than this. I appreciate the relationship with the press. I know these folks enjoyed the—enjoyed dealing with you—well, another crowd of you, been dealing with you as well. It's an important relationship.

Joe Lockhart. Some of the same crowd.

The President. Well, you're the head of the whole thing. Like, have you got a thing—a role to play?

Q. No, no, no.

The President. Okay, good. But anyway, good luck.

Q. What about Crawford?

The President. For those of you going to Crawford, saddle up. All right, good to see you.

Press Secretary Snow. Thank you, everybody.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:57 p.m. in the James S. Brady Press Briefing Room at the White House. Participating in the visit were former White House Press Secretaries Margaret J. "Dee Dee" Myers, Marlin Fitzwater, Joe Lockhart, Ron Nessen, and James S. Brady, and his wife, Sarah. In his remarks, the President referred to ABC News national correspondent Sam Donaldson. A reporter referred to actor Mel Gibson.

Remarks Following a Tour of the Lake County Emergency Management Agency in Mentor, Ohio

August 2, 2006

I have just been briefed by the emergency management teams of Lake County and the other counties affected by the recent flooding. Law enforcement was there; firefighters were there; and our FEMA representative was there at the briefing.

A couple of impressions: One, the local response was really good. The interoperability between various jurisdictions was superb. And as a result, a lot of people's lives were saved. And I want to congratulate you, Sheriff, and congratulate Larry for your good work in helping people.

Secondly, FEMA has been on the ground here, and I signed a major disaster declaration for this part of the country, which means this: that individuals will be helped. Individuals will be helped with rental assistance; individuals will be helped with temporary housing; individuals will be helped with grants to help rebuild their homes; and small businesses will be helped with low-interest loans. In other words, the first wave of help from the Federal Government as a result of these disasters is now available for people whose lives were affected by the flooding.

There are still assessments going on for further Federal help and Federal assistance, and when those assessments are made, the proper help will be granted. For those people who are wondering about the Federal help, there's toll-free numbers. You can call the emergency center, they'll give you the toll-free numbers if you've been a citizen affected by these recent floods.

Again, I want to congratulate you all for a job well done. I had the honor of talking to dispatchers, hardworking people that are on the phone all the time helping people. And now, once the lives have been saved, with the exception of one soul, that it's now time to help the people rebuild their lives. There's a lot of people concerned and a lot of people working here, and the Federal Government will do its part with the local authorities.

Thank you all very much. Appreciate you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:47 p.m. at the Lake County Emergency Operations and Communications Center. In his remarks, he referred to Jesse Munoz, Federal Coordinating Officer, Federal Emergency Management Agency; Sheriff Daniel A. Dunlap of Lake County, OH; and Larry D. Greene, director, Lake County Emergency Management Agency.

Memorandum on Waiving Prohibition on United States Military Assistance With Respect to Lesotho

August 2, 2006

Presidential Determination No. 2006–18

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Waiving Prohibition on United States Military Assistance With Respect to Lesotho

Consistent with the authority vested in me by section 2007 of the American Servicemembers' Protection Act of 2002 (the "Act"), title II of Public Law 107–206 (22 U.S.C. 7421 *et seq.*), I hereby:

- Determine that Lesotho has entered into an agreement with the United States pursuant to Article 98 of the Rome Statute preventing the International Criminal Court from proceeding against U.S. personnel present in such country; and
- Waive the prohibition of section 2007(a) of the Act with respect to this country for as long as such agreement remains in force.

You are authorized and directed to report this determination to the Congress, and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

Remarks on Immigration Reform in McAllen, Texas

August 3, 2006

Thank you all very much. It's good to be home. Thank you for coming. Please be seated. You know, when I left the Governor's office, I knew I would leave it in capable hands with Rick Perry. And I'm proud of the job he's done as Governor of the State of Texas, and I'm proud to have been introduced by the Governor of my State.

I want to thank you all for the warm welcome. It's nice to get out of Washington. [*Laughter*] It's even better to come down to Texas. And I'm proud to be with my fellow Texans.

I learned a lot growing up here; I learned a lot as your Governor. And as Rick said, I understand this border, and I want to talk to you today about border policy. We have an obligation to secure our border, and we have an obligation to treat people with decency and respect. And we're going to do both in the United States of America.

I just traveled and met some of the fine men and women of the National Guard and Border Patrol who are working long hours to do the—to keep this border secure. And I first—I want to say thanks to all the Border Patrol agents and the Guard men and women who are here. You've got a tough job, and the role of the Federal Government is to give you the tools necessary to do your job.

So we landed, and we saw choppers with all kinds of new equipment on it—airplanes that can interdict people flying in drugs, fast boats to stop the people trying to bring drugs or people up and down the coast of Texas. One of the things that you'll hear me talk about is the need to modernize the technology along this border. And that's what we're going to do.

I also recognized we needed more people to help the Guard and to help the Border Patrol do its job. And so last May, I said, we'll deploy up to 6,000 National Guard members to assist the Border Patrol. And I said we'd get it done by August 1st. Well, we got it done by August 1st. And I want to thank those in the National Guard who have joined us.

It's good to look out in the crowd and see a lot of folks that I got to know over the years. And most of the folks that I got to know over the years realize that I married well. And so Laura sends her deep affection to the people of south Texas and our friends here in the audience. She's doing just fine, by the way. She's a great First Lady.

I'm proud to be here with Congressman Ralph Hall, right out of the Dallas area. Thanks for coming, Congressman. He's a fine Texan who cares deeply about the people along the border here. I'm traveling today with the Commissioner of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Ralph Basham. Ralph, thank you for joining us.

So, what happens when the President sets policy in Washington, like on the Guard policy—I said, "We need to get 6,000 members of the Guard down to help the Border Patrol." And then that order goes down the chain of command, and the first person whose desk it landed on in the chain of command after Secretary Rumsfeld was Lieutenant General Steve Blum of the Guard Bureau. General Blum said, "Mr. President, we're going to get the job done." I said, "That's good, General Blum, because come August 1st, I'm going to come down to the area and take a look-see." And he did. Thank you, General Blum, for a job well done.

David Aguilar is the Chief of the U.S. Border Patrol. I don't know if you know this or not, but David's mother lives here in the area. And he made sure the first person I met when I got off the airplane, as far as he is concerned, was his mother. [*Laughter*] One reason he's advanced so highly in the Border Patrol, like the head of the whole thing, is because he has listened to his mother—[*laughter*]—just like I have listened to mine. So thank you for being here, David. Thanks for serving.

Major General Chuck Rodriguez, adjutant general of the Texas National Guard, very instrumental in making sure we've got the troops here to help the Border Patrol. General, thank you very much. General Allen Dehnert who's the adjutant general for the Texas Air National Guard; General Dehnert, thank you very much as well. General Mike Kostelnik who's the Assistant Commissioner, Office of CBP Air and Marine, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol; look, he's the guy in charge of airplanes and boats. [*Laughter*]

We're here as well, with Lieutenant Colonel Jose Carrillo. He is the Rio Grande Valley Texas National Guard Task Force commander. See, in other words, when you got to bring people down from other States to help the Border Patrol do their job, you have to have an organization. You just can't send people down here. And one thing the Guard has done well is, they've organized this effort. I'm also proud to be here with Chief Lynne Underdown. She is the Rio Grande Valley Border Patrol Sector chairman. Chief, thank you for being here. Thanks for serving.

I want to thank Mayor Salinas of Mission who's with us today. Mayor, thank you for joining us. Proud you're here. Mayor Cortez of McAllen is with us. Mayor, good to see you. Thank you very much. [*Applause*] Yes, that's a good sign, Mayor; it's a good sign.

Finally, one of my dear friends, I've known him for a long time, and that's Mayor John David Franz of Hidalgo. Mayor, it's good to see you. John David told me just as I got off the airplane—I said, "How is your family?" He said, "My son has just enrolled in West Point." And you tell him thank you, John David, on behalf of a grateful nation.

And for those of you who have got a loved one in the United States military, you tell them the Commander in Chief is incredibly proud of the job they're doing to help secure this Nation and bring peace to this world. We've got a fantastic military, and it's a military that will have the full support—[*applause*].

I'm going to talk today about comprehensive immigration reform. I say "comprehensive" because unless you have all five pieces working together, it's not going to work at all. This is an important debate facing our Nation, and the debate is, can we secure this border and, at the same time, honor our history of being a land of immigrants? And the answer is, absolutely, we can do both. And we will do both.

First, we've got to secure the border. We will keep it open to lawful trade and commerce, and we will work to secure the border to prevent people and goods and weapons from being brought illegally here. That's our job. It's the job of the Federal Government—it's the job of the—working with the State government to get the job done. That's what the American people expect.

All this strategy has got to start with more money, and so we've increased funding for border security from $4.6 billion in 2001 to more than 7.6 billion in 2006. In other words, you can't say the American people are going to make a commitment to secure the

border, unless you spend money to secure the border, and we're doing just that. And I recently signed an emergency supplemental spending bill that provides an additional $1.9 billion in immediate funding for border security. And what does that mean? Well, it means we're going to give the Border Patrol, the people on the frontlines of securing this border, better technology, and we're going to expand the number of Border Patrol agents that will be able to use that technology. That's the strategy.

We put new resources in people's hands. And as a result of the hard work of Border Patrol since 2001, Federal agents have apprehended and sent home more than 6 million people entering America illegally.

I mean, people are working hard. There's people doing their job, but we could do more. There's more work to be done. And so we've called for increases in manpower and technology. We're going to train 6,000 additional agents so that you've got more people to help you do the job. And in the meantime, the reason we brought the Guard down here was because we knew we had an immediate need to enforce the border. And so until those 6,000 are trained, we're going to be using National Guard units from over 30 States here. And the plan is working. It makes sense. If we need more manpower and the need for manpower is immediate, it makes sense to call upon our Guard troops to come and help the Border Patrol do the job.

We're going to help build a virtual border by using infrared and motion sensors. We'll deploy unmanned aerial vehicles. In other words, we're going to leverage the manpower we have. It's amazing, the new technologies that are arriving. People are—these Border Patrol agents will tell you that they're seeing more and better equipment. You got heat sensors on guard stations that will enable people to detect movement. We got choppers that are able to send real-time video streams back to Border Patrol command centers that will then enable a dispatcher to help an agent catch somebody who's smuggling people or drugs in a near real-time basis.

This border is changing, and it needs to change so the Border Patrol can do its job. We call this, by the way, this operation when we moved the Guard down here, Operation Jump Start. So when you hear about Operation Jump Start, that means Guard.

And the Guard has helped a lot. You know, it's interesting that—and by the way, the Guard is not just in Texas. It's in New Mexico, Arizona, and California as well. In other words, Border Patrol agents all up and down thissouthern border are getting help from our Guard men and women. And the Guards are doing—look, they're not arresting people. We're not going to militarize this border. The job of arresting people is up to the Border Patrol. That's your job. That's what you're trained to do. That's what your skill level is. Their job is to help the Border Patrol by, you know, surveillance and construction, logistics. I mean, if you've got a Guard person dispatching, it means there's more—one more Border Patrol agent out on the frontline. And so we're going to use this Guard until we get 6,000 more people trained.

For the people who wonder whether the Guard could be effective down here, when we deployed Operation Jump Start—since we've deployed it, our agents have seen 17,000 pounds of illegal drugs and apprehended 2,500 illegal immigrants. In other words, the Guard is leveraging—giving the Border Patrol more opportunity.

Last month, Border Patrol agents in this sector confiscated more than 4,200 pounds of marijuana that was hidden in a tractor-trailer. And the support of the Guard was important in making this seizure happen. So for those of you in the Guard, I want to thank you for coming down here and helping these good folks in the Border Patrol, and your presence is making a difference.

In order to make sure the Border Patrol is effective, we've got to stop what's called catch-and-release. For the veterans down here, they know what catch-and-release means. And it had to have been discouraging for you—risk your life, or you're spending long hours, and all of a sudden, you apprehend people who are sneaking here illegally. But we didn't have enough detention space to hold people. And so the people were given a court date. And they said, you check back in when your court date comes up. But a lot of folks didn't want to check in when their

court date came up, so they just didn't show up. And one of the things I learned early on was how discouraging that can be for the people on the frontline of securing this border.

You can imagine what it must feel like to work hard and chase somebody down, treat them humanely, send them in for their court date, and then they don't show up. It seemed like wasted effort, didn't it? So this Government is committed to ending this unacceptable practice. Step one is to add detention beds. If you didn't have enough detention space in the first place, the way you solve the problem is, you add beds. And here in the Rio Grande Valley, we're going to add 1,500 beds in short order.

We're also accelerating the deportation process, particularly for people who are not from Mexico that we catch coming across the border. Last year, for example, we put together what was called Operation Texas Hold 'Em. We cut through redtape so we could quickly return Brazilians who we caught illegally crossing this border. And we sent a clear message: When we catch you, there will be immediate deportation. And guess what happened? As a result of that clear message, the number of illegal immigrants from Brazil has dropped significantly across the whole region.

That's the message we must continually send over and over again to people who feel like they can come from Central America, for example, and if caught, be let back into society, and if not caught, they're able to escape the Border Patrol. We want to send a clear message: We will enforce our border.

But in order to make sure these Border Patrol agents can do their job, we must have a temporary-worker program. You got to understand here, and I know you do, there are people doing jobs Americans aren't doing. There are people who have come across this border to do work Americans are not doing. And it makes sense to let them come on a temporary basis in a legal way.

Wouldn't you rather have people who are doing work Americans are not doing, not trying to sneak across the border? I know the Border Patrol agents would rather not have people try to sneak across the border. It makes sense to me, to say to somebody, if you're going to do a job Americans aren't doing, you can come for a period of time—say, 3 years—and do that work and support your family back home, and then you go home after your time is up. That's the way to treat people humanely.

I don't like a system that's not working and a system that forces people who want to work, in the back of 18-wheelers. I don't like a system that encourages smuggling. I don't like a system that encourages people to walk across the desert to risk their life. I think we need to have a system that is orderly and fair and transparent.

We've got to enforce our immigration laws at the worksite. But as a result of illegal activities in trying to get people into this country, there's a lot of document forgery. Our employers cannot be document verifiers. They don't know whether they've got a real document to look at or a fake document to look at. One of the temporary—parts of a temporary-worker program would be to give people a tamper-proof temporary-worker card, that they could say, I'm legal, see; I'm here to do the job; I'm going to work for a period of time, and then I'm going to go home after I work a period of time; I can be here legally. That will make it easier for us to have worksite enforcement.

Listen, we will hold people to account. It's against the law in the United States to employ somebody who is here illegally. And a nation of laws is a nation that upholds its laws. But we've got to be wise about the policy that we enforce. We've got to give people something that document forgers can't tamper with so our employers know whether or not they're hiring somebody who's here illegally or not.

Fourthly, we've got to make sure that we resolve the status of illegal immigrants who are already in this country. It's an interesting debate taking place in America. I'll give you my position: One, I do not think we ought to grant amnesty to people who are here illegally. And the reason I don't is, I think that will encourage a whole other bunch of people to come. But I know you cannot deport 10 million people who have been here working. It's unrealistic. It may sound good in certain circles and political circles. It's not going to work.

The best plan is to say to somebody who has been here illegally, if you've been paying your taxes, and you've got a good criminal record, that you can pay a fine for being here illegally, and you can learn English, like the rest of us have done, and you can get in a citizenship line to apply for citizenship. You don't get to get in the front; you get to get in the back of the line.

But this idea of deporting people is just not—it doesn't make any sense to me, and it doesn't make any sense to a lot of people who understand this issue. So here's a reasonable way to treat people with respect and accomplish what we want to accomplish, which is to be a country of law and a country of decency and respect.

And finally, in order to make a comprehensive immigration plan work, we've got to help folks assimilate into our society. And what does that mean? It means, help people learn English, to help people understand the traditions and history of the United States of America.

One of the fabulous things about our country is that our soul has constantly been renewed by people seeking the American Dream, people coming here to work to realize their dream, people wanting to raise a family in the United States of America. And we come from different backgrounds, but we're all united by the great ideal of being an American citizen. That's why we say, we're one Nation under God. And to help people assimilate will help us keep that in place.

And so it's good to be down here on our border. It's an exciting part of the United States of America. It's amazing how this country has grown and how vital the valley is of the State of Texas. It's got to be exciting for people to grow up in this part of the world and see the new prosperity. Gosh, it wasn't all that long ago that—I know these mayors can remember—the economy was tough down here. It was, kind of, farming, and that was all. And now there's economic vitality. People are making a living, and the schools are improving. It's a great place to raise a family.

It's a great place to also come and honor those who wear the uniform of the United States of America, whether it be local law enforcement or the sheriff's departments or the Border Patrol or the United States military. We're a blessed country. We're a great country because we've got people who stand up and say, I want to serve. And it's the service of the men and women in uniform that are doing the job down here that the American people expect.

I can't tell you how proud I am to be the Commander in Chief of the military and to be the President of the United States, full of such decent and honorable people. I'm honored to be back in this part of the world. I want to thank you for coming out and giving me a chance to talk about a comprehensive immigration plan. I expect the United States Congress to do its duty and pass comprehensive immigration reform.

God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:40 p.m. at Anzalduas Park. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Rick Perry of Texas; Mayor Norberto "Beto" Salinas of Mission, TX; Mayor Richard F. Cortez of McAllen, TX; and John David Franz, Jr., son of Mayor John David Franz of Hidalgo, TX.

Statement on Cuba

August 3, 2006

The United States is actively monitoring the situation in Cuba following the announcement of a transfer of power. At this time of uncertainty in Cuba, one thing is clear: The United States is absolutely committed to supporting the Cuban people's aspirations for democracy and freedom. We have repeatedly said that the Cuban people deserve to live in freedom. I encourage all democratic nations to unite in support of the right of the Cuban people to define a democratic future for their country. I urge the Cuban people to work for democratic change on the island. We will support you in your effort to build a transitional government in Cuba committed to democracy, and we will take note of those, in the current Cuban regime, who obstruct your desire for a free Cuba. In the event of a transition in the Cuban Government, we stand ready to provide humanitarian assistance as needed to help the Cuban people. It has long been the

hope of the United States to have a free, independent, and democratic Cuba as a close friend and neighbor. In achieving this, the Cuban people can count on the full and unconditional support of the United States.

NOTE: The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language version of this statement.

Notice—Continuation of Emergency Regarding Export Control Regulations

August 3, 2006

On August 17, 2001, consistent with the authority provided me under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*), I issued Executive Order 13222. In that order, I declared a national emergency with respect to the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States in light of the expiration of the Export Administration Act of 1979, as amended (50 U.S.C. App. 2401 *et seq.*). Because the Export Administration Act has not been renewed by the Congress, the national emergency declared on August 17, 2001, must continue in effect beyond August 17, 2006. Therefore, in accordance with section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)), I am continuing for 1 year the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13222.

This notice shall be published in the *Federal Register* and transmitted to the Congress.

George W. Bush

The White House,
August 3, 2006.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., August 4, 2006]

NOTE: This notice was published in the *Federal Register* on August 7.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Continuation of the National Emergency Regarding Export Control Regulations

August 3, 2006

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)), provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the emergency caused by the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979, as amended, is to continue in effect for 1 year beyond August 17, 2006, to the *Federal Register* for publication.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

July 29

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

July 30

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Miami, FL. While en route aboard Air Force One, he had a telephone conversation with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to discuss her ongoing visit to the Middle East. Upon arrival in Miami, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Dorcas Piegari.

During the day, the President had several separate telephone conversations with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom, and National Security Adviser Stephen J. Hadley to discuss the situation in the Middle East.

In the evening, the President traveled to Miami Beach, FL, where he attended a dinner with community leaders. He then returned to Miami.

July 31

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, at the Versailles Restaurant and Bakery, he participated in an interview with Radio Mambi. He then visited the National Hurricane Center.

Later in the morning, at the U.S. Coast Guard Integrated Support Command, the President participated in an interview with Michael Putney of WPLG–TV Miami.

In the afternoon, at the U.S. Coast Guard Integrated Support Command, the President participated in separate interviews with Pedro Sevcec of Telemundo and Neil Cavuto of FOX News. Later, he traveled to Coral Gables, FL, where, at a private residence, he attended a Republican National Committee luncheon. He then returned to Washington, DC.

In the evening, the President met with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to discuss her recent visit to the Middle East.

The President announced his intention to nominate Randolph James Clerihue to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Public Affairs.

The President announced his intention to nominate Susan E. Dudley to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs at the Office of Management and Budget.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael F. Duffy to be a member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, and, upon confirmation, to designate him as Chairman.

The President announced his intention to nominate Roger Romulus Martella, Jr., to be Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (General Counsel).

The President announced his intention to nominate Arthur K. Reilly to be a member of the National Science Board (National Science Foundation).

The President announced his appointment of Bryan Corbett as Special Assistant to the President for Economic Policy.

The President announced his appointment of Kenneth Kiyul Lee as Associate Counsel to the President.

The President announced his appointment of Andrea Becker Looney as Special Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs.

The President announced his appointment of Michael Magan as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Relief, Stabilization, and Development of the National Security Council.

The President announced his appointment of Scott Walter as Special Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy.

August 1

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Bethesda, MD, where, at the National Naval Medical Center, he had his annual physical examination and visited wounded military personnel and presented Purple Hearts to seven of them.

During the day, the President met with Republican Senators.

The President announced his intention to nominate C. Stephen Allred to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Land and Mineral Management.

The President announced his intention to nominate Carl Joseph Artman to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs and to appoint him as a member of the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center.

The President announced his intention to nominate Alex A. Beehler to be Inspector General of the Environmental Protection Agency.

The President announced his intention to nominate Wilma B. Liebman to be a member of the National Labor Relations Board.

The President announced his intention to nominate Leland A. Strom to be a member of the Farm Credit Administration Board.

The President announced his intention to nominate James H. Bilbray to be a Governor of the Board of Governors of the U.S. Postal Service.

The President announced his intention to nominate Charles R. Christopherson, Jr., to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

The President declared a major disaster in Ohio and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, straight line winds, and flooding on July 27 and continuing.

August 2

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he met with Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld. He then met with Republican Senators.

In the afternoon, the President met with Secretary of the Treasury Henry M. Paulson, Jr. Later, he participated in a photo opportunity with Make-a-Wish Foundation children. He then traveled to Mentor, OH.

Later in the afternoon, the President traveled to Kirtland Hills, OH, where, at a private residence, he attended an evening reception for Ohio gubernatorial candidate J. Kenneth Blackwell. He then returned to Washington, DC.

August 3

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to McAllen, TX. While en route aboard Air Force One, he had a telephone conversation with Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany to discuss the situation in the Middle East. Upon arrival in McAllen, he participated in a tour of Border Patrol and National Guard assets.

Later in the afternoon, the President traveled to Mission, TX, where he viewed a demonstration of the Border Patrol-National Guard Skybox. Later, he traveled to the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX.

The President announced his intention to nominate Nelson M. Ford to be Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management).

The President announced his intention to nominate Cynthia A. Glassman to be Undersecretary of Commerce for Economic Affairs.

The President announced his intention to nominate John K. Veroneau to be Deputy U.S. Trade Representative with the rank of Ambassador.

The President announced his intention to nominate Gerald Walpin to be Inspector General of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The President announced his intention to nominate William H. Graves to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

The President announced his intention to nominate the following individuals to be Commissioners of the Mississippi River Commission: Bruce Arlan Berwick; Robert Crear, and, upon confirmation, to designate him President; Samuel P. De Bow, Jr.; and Gregg F. Martin.

The President announced his appointment of Jay Hein as Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.

August 4

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The President announced his designation of the following individuals as members of a Presidential delegation to attend the funeral of former Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto of Japan on August 8: Norman Y. Mineta (head of delegation); and John Thomas Schieffer.

The President announced his designation of the following individuals as members of a Presidential delegation to attend the Inauguration of President Alvaro Uribe Velez of Colombia on August 7: Henry M. Paulson, Jr. (head of delegation); Carlos M. Gutierrez; and William B. Wood.

The President declared a major disaster in Alaska and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by snow melt and ice jam flooding from May 13–30.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted August 1

C. Stephen Allred,
of Idaho, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior, vice Rebecca W. Watson, resigned.

Carl Joseph Artman,
of Colorado, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior, vice David Wayne Anderson.

Alex A. Beehler,
of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency, vice Nikki Rush Tinsley, resigned.

James H. Bilbray,
of Nevada, to be a Governor of the U.S. Postal Service for the remainder of the term expiring December 8, 2006, vice John F. Walsh, resigned.

James H. Bilbray,
of Nevada, to be a Governor of the U.S. Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2015 (reappointment).

Charles R. Christopherson, Jr.,
of Texas, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation, vice Joseph J. Jen.

Randolph James Clerihue,
of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor, vice Lisa Kruska.

Susan E. Dudley,
of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, vice John D. Graham, resigned.

Michael F. Duffy,
of the District of Columbia, to be a member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission for a term expiring August 30, 2012 (reappointment).

Wilma B. Liebman,
of the District of Columbia, to be a member of the National Labor Relations Board for the term of 5 years expiring August 27, 2011 (reappointment).

Roger Romulus Martella, Jr.,
of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, vice Ann R. Klee, resigned.

Arthur K. Reilly,
of New Jersey, to be a member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for a term expiring May 10, 2012, vice Michael G. Rossmann, term expired.

Leland A. Strom,
of Illinois, to be a member of the Farm Credit Administration Board, Farm Credit Administration, for a term expiring October 13, 2012, vice Douglas L. Flory, term expiring.

Submitted August 2

Dabney Langhorne Friedrich,
of Virginia, to be a member of the U.S. Sentencing Commission for the remainder of the term expiring October 31, 2009, vice Michael O'Neill.

Roslynn Renee Mauskopf,
of New York, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, vice David G. Trager, retired.

Liam O'Grady,
of Virginia, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, vice Claude M. Hilton, retired.

Lawrence Joseph O'Neill,
of California, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of California, vice Oliver W. Wanger, retired.

Submitted August 3

Brig. Gen. Bruce Arlan Berwick, USA,
to be a member of the Mississippi River Commission.

Brig. Gen. Robert Crear, USA,
to be a member and President of the Mississippi River Commission.

Rear Adm. Samuel P. De Bow, Jr., NOAA,
to be a member of the Mississippi River Commission.

Nelson M. Ford,
of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, vice Valerie Lynn Baldwin.

Cynthia A. Glassman,
of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Economic Affairs, vice Kathleen B. Cooper, resigned.

William H. Graves,
of Tennessee, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2007 (new position).

Col. Gregg F. Martin, USA,
to be a member of the Mississippi River Commission.

Rachel K. Paulose,
of Minnesota, to be U.S. Attorney for the District of Minnesota for the term of 4 years, vice Thomas B. Heffelfinger, resigned.

John K. Veroneau,
of Virginia, to be a Deputy U.S. Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, vice Susan C. Schwab, resigned.

Gerald Walpin,
of New York, to be Inspector General, Corporation for National and Community Service, vice J. Russell George.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released July 30

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Tony Snow

Released July 31

Transcript of a press briefing by Federal Emergency Management Agency Director R. David Paulison

Fact sheet: A Day in Miami: President Bush Highlights Economic Growth and Hurricane Preparedness Efforts

Released August 1

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Tony Snow

Statement by the Press Secretary: Renewal of the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.J. Res. 86

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 2977, H.R. 3440, H.R. 3549, H.R. 3934, H.R. 4101, and H.R. 4108

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Ohio

Released August 2

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Tony Snow

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 4456, H.R. 4561, H.R. 4688, H.R. 4786, H.R. 4995, and H.R. 5245

Released August 3

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Tony Snow

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 4019, S. 310, and S. 1496

Fact sheet: Operation Jump Start: Acting Now To Secure the Border

Released August 4

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Tony Snow

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 5877 and S. 3741

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Alaska

Fact sheet: Job Creation Continues—More Than 5.5 Million Jobs Created Since August 2003

Acts Approved by the President

Approved August 1

H.J. Res. 86 / Public Law 109–251
Approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2977 / Public Law 109–252
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 306 2nd Avenue in Brockway, Montana, as the "Paul Kasten Post Office Building"

H.R. 3440 / Public Law 109–253
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Avenida RL Rodriguez in Bayamon, Puerto Rico, as the "Dr. Jose Celso Barbosa Post Office Building"

H.R. 3549 / Public Law 109–254
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 210 West 3rd Avenue in Warren, Pennsylvania, as the "William F. Clinger, Jr. Post Office Building"

H.R. 3934 / Public Law 109–255
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 80 Killian Road in Massapequa, New York, as the "Gerard A. Fiorenza Post Office Building"

H.R. 4101 / Public Law 109–256
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 170 East Main Street in Patchogue, New York, as the "Lieutenant Michael P. Murphy Post Office Building"

H.R. 4108 / Public Law 109–257
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3000 Homewood Avenue in Baltimore, Maryland, as the "State Senator Verda Welcome and Dr. Henry Welcome Post Office Building"

Approved August 2

H.R. 4456 / Public Law 109–258
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2404 Race Street in Jonesboro, Arkansas, as the "Hattie W. Caraway Station"

H.R. 4561 / Public Law 109–259
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8624 Ferguson Road in Dallas, Texas, as the "Francisco 'Pancho' Medrano Post Office Building"

H.R. 4688 / Public Law 109–260
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 Boyden Street in Badin, North Carolina, as the "Mayor John Thompson 'Tom' Garrison Memorial Post Office"

H.R. 4786 / Public Law 109–261
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 535 Wood Street in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, as the "H. Gordon Payrow Post Office Building"

H.R. 4995 / Public Law 109–262
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7 Columbus Avenue in Tuckahoe, New York, as the "Ronald Bucca Post Office"

H.R. 5245 / Public Law 109–263
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 Marble Street in Fair Haven, Vermont, as the "Matthew Lyon Post Office Building"

Approved August 3

H.R. 4019 / Public Law 109–264
To amend title 4 of the United States Code to clarify the treatment of self-employment for purposes of the limitation on State taxation of retirement income

S. 310 / Public Law 109–265
Newlands Project Headquarters and Maintenance Yard Facility Transfer Act

S. 1496 / Public Law 109–266
Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2005

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